[28th February 1945

Harijan hostel for Ponnani

* 972 Q.—SRI E. T. KUNHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to open a Harijan hostel in Ponnani town?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" A proposal to open a Harijan Boys' Hostel at Ponnani was considered and dropped, as there is already a Harijan Boys' Hostel at Palghat, in Malabar district. The Government have since opened a Girls' Hostel also at Palghat. There is no proposal to open a hostel for girls at Ponnani."

SRI E. T. KUNHAN :—" പൊന്നാനിയിൽ ഇന്നുള്ള ഹരിജൻ ഹോസ്റ്റൽ ഹരിജൻ സേവക്സംഘത്തിന്റെ വകയാണ്. ഒരു ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു ഹോസ്റ്റൽകൂടെ അവിടെ തുറന്നാൽ നന്നായിരിക്കും. അക്കാര്യം ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു ആലോചിക്കുമൊ ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" About 38 students composed of 26 boys and 12 girls are in Ponnani and they have been provided for in the Government Hostel at Palghat and a new hostel for girls has been opened at Palghat."

SRI O. KORAN :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that the hostel at Ponnani is being run by the Harijan Sevak Sangh? May I know whether the Government have sanctioned any grant to that hostel? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The question of sanctioning a grant to that hostel is being considered by the Government."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" In view of the fact that the facilities afforded by the hostels run for Harijans in Malabar are very much less than those afforded by the hostels in other parts of the State and that many of the Harijans are refused admission into these hostels, for want of accommodation, will the Government consider the question of sanctioning the opening of new hostels? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The strength of the hostel at Palghat has been increased. I do not agree that the students there are treated in any way different from the students of other districts."

SRI S. R ARUMUGAM :—" பொன்னானியில் ஹரிஜன சேவா சங்கத்தால் நடத்தப்படும் ஹாஸ்டல் திருப்திகரமாக நடைபெறாமல் இருக்கின்றன. அதை சர்க்கார் எடுத்து நடத்துவதற்கு யோசனை செய்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" பொன்னானி ஹரிஜன ஹாஸ்டலை சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்வதற்கு யோசனை செய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இப்பொழுது எந்த வாக்குறுதியும் கொடுக்க முடியாது."

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Dr. K. B. MENON :—" Since Ponnani is a very crowded town and since even the elementary conveniences that are necessary are not provided in the Harijan Hostel there, will the Government see that these conveniences are provided immediately? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government will look into the matter."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" The Hon. Minister said that there was already a hostel in Palghat. Where is Palghat and where is Ponnani? Palghat is about a hundred miles away from Ponnani. If the Hon. Minister knows the place, I think he will be pleased to take steps to open a Government hostel at Ponnani."

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" As I said, many of the students belonging to Ponnani taluk are reading in some other taluks. There are only about 38 students studying in the hostel at Ponnani. The Harijan Sevak Sangh is maintaining them. These students studying in Ponnani have come over to Palghat. A separate hostel for them is being started at Palghat. Unless a strong case is made out for opening a hostel at Ponnani, the Government will not consider that question. But, on the other hand, the Government will go into the question of bettering the conditions of those students who are in the hostel run by the Harijan Sevak Sangh there."

Government Hospital, Ponnani

* 973 *Q.*—Sri E. T. KUNHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the bed-strength of the Government Hospital, Ponnani;

(*b*) the number of in-patients in the hospital; and

(*c*) the daily attendance of patients?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) 30, Sir.

" (b) & (c) The daily average number of in and out-patients treated in the hospital during 1954 was 78·41 and 456·01 respectively."

Sri E. T. KUNHAN :—" ഇത്ര ജാസ്തി രോഗികളുണ്ടായിട്ടും ഈ ആസ്പത്രിയിൽ മുപ്പതു ബെഡ്ഡു മാത്രമേയുള്ളു. അതു അമ്പതെങ്കിലുമാക്കി വൎദ്ധിപ്പിക്കാൻ ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ ? "

Sri K. P. GOPALAN (translation) :—" Will the Government be pleased to increase the number of beds in that hospital to at least 50? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" There have been proposals to increase the bed-strength in many hospitals. But we cannot increase bed-strength and provide additional staff in many hospitals at the same time. This increase is effected according to the urgency of the need and the availability of funds."